

STATINTL [REDACTED]

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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Executive Officer/OS

DATE: 9 July 1958

FROM : 25X1A [REDACTED]/SRS

SUBJECT: Proposed Article by Mrs. Ruth Redmond for Reader's Digest

The article has been reviewed by the writer and another Staff officer of SRS. In a number of places it is noted that Mrs. Redmond points up factors favorable to Chinese Communism:

1. The excellent health and fine appearance of son (gleaming teeth, etc.)
2. The rosy conditions in the New (Communist) housing development -- laughing children and watching mothers -- as contrasted with the old primitive conditions.
3. The beauty of the room reserved for her in Shanghai -- the excellent meals prepared by the hotel -- showing how normal and pleasant conditions in Communist China are.
4. Possible plug for recognizing China -- inability of our State Department to deal with the arrest of Redmond and others: "Because we had no diplomatic relations with Red China, our State Department was helpless."

As against this, the closing of the article pictures a ranking Chicom official in a poor light which, in our opinion, would create an adverse feeling toward the Chicoms by any reader of the article.

We cannot determine that the article was written by agreement between the Chicoms and Mrs. Redmond, nor is the article one in which considerable details are given.

It is also interesting to note, as 25X1A [REDACTED] pointed out, the total omission of any references to Hugh Redmond's wife.

It is our opinion that the article would accomplish nothing by being published and quite conceivably might injure the chances of Hugh Redmond's being released from Communist China.

25X1A [REDACTED]

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